

## Message Text

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62

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-12 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

ACDA-07 MC-02 TRSE-00 AID-05 EB-07 /090 W

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P R 112040Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1353

INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

USCINCSO

DIA WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMA 7277

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINT, PE

SUBJECT: GOP PURCHASE OF SOVIET AIRCRAFT

1. UPI REPORTER TOLD EMBOFF AUGUST 10 THAT HE AND HIS COLLEAGUES FROM OTHER INTERNATIONAL PRESS AGENCIES WOULD ONCE AGAIN ATTEMPT TO ELICIT A RESPONSE ON ALLEGED GOP PURCHASE OF SOVIET AIRCRAFT FROM AIR MINISTER POGGI. QUERY WOULD BE BASED ON PRESS REPORTS AROUND HEMISPHERE STATING THAT "ACCORDING TO INTELLIGENCE SERVICES IN LATIN AMERICAN CAPITALS", GOP HAS PURCHASED 36 SOVIET FIGHTER/BOMBER AIRCRAFT.

2. EMBOFF DISCUSSED ALLEGED AIRCRAFT PURCHASE WITH ADVISOR TO PRIME MINISTER ARBULU IN COURSE OF WIDE RANGING POLITICAL DISCUSSION. OFFICIAL CLAIMED THAT PRESS REPORTS WERE BEING PLANTED BY CHILEAN INTELLIGENCE IN ORDER TO EMBARRASS GOP AT A TIME WHEN IT IS IN THE PROCESS OF NEGOTIATING MAJOR FINANCING FROM U.S. AND EUROPEAN BANKS. THE PRIME MINISTER'S ADVISOR WENT ON TO SAY THAT THE PURCHASE OF 36 SU22 AIRCRAFT IS FINAL AND THAT PRIME MINISTER ARBULU SIGNED THE PURCHASE AGREEMENT COUNTERSIGNED BY THE SOVIET DEFENSE MINISTER IN LATE JULY. TWELVE AIRCRAFT SHOULD BE DELIVERED BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR. THIS IS NOT A TEN-TATIVE DEAL, AFFIRMED THE OFFICIAL, AND IS NOT AFFECTED BY THE

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RECENT CABINET SHAKE-UP. HE CLAIMED THAT GENERAL ARBULU HAD

EARLIER GIVEN A PRELIMINARY O.K. WHEN HE WAS CHIEF OF THE  
MILITARY JOINT COMMAND.

3. THE OFFICIAL WENT ON TO SAY THAT THE GOP IS EXTREMELY DISTURBED BY THE TIMING OF PRESS ACCOUNTS, AND THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS AT ITS AUGUST 10 SESSION WAS ATTEMPTING TO DECIDE HOW THE GOP SHOULD HANDLE THE PROBLEM OF "PREMATURE PUBLICITY".

4. THE EMBASSY HAS NO OTHER CONFIRMATION THAT THE AIRCRAFT PURCHASE IS IRREVOCABLE, BUT ABOVE SOURCE IS IN GOOD POSITION TO KNOW DETAILS.

SMITH

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FIGHTER AIRCRAFT, PRESS COMMENTS, AIRCRAFT SALES, ALLEGATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 11 AUG 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** CunninFX  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976LIMA07277  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION ARA  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** CunninFX  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 15 JUL 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <15 JUL 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <27 OCT 2004 by CunninFX>  
**Review Markings:**  

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**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** GOP PURCHASE OF SOVIET AIRCRAFT  
**TAGS:** PINT, EAIR, PE, UR, (ARBULU GALLIANI, GUILLERMO)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006